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Curios and Relics

Weapons

Iron Knuckles

Used by Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Lincoln Hid Eyes, Carried Knuckles And A Dagger

Washington, Oct. 26—(P)—The National Park Service reported today that Abraham Lincoln may have carried iron knuckles and a dagger and used eye shields as a disguise against possible assassins on his trip to Washington to be inaugurated president.

The method and route Lincoln used are much disputed, the Park Service said. But the knuckles,

knife and shields are going on display anyway in the Lincoln Museum in the theater where the Civil War President was shot. The Park Service operates the museum.

It said in a statement that the articles originally belonged to Capt. George Whitfield Hazzard, an Army officer who accompanied Lincoln to Washington for his first inauguration.

They were given to the museum by the Little Sisters of the Poor to whom they had been bequeathed by the late Margaretta Laurenson Hazzard, captain's daughter.

A statement accompanying the gift said rumors reached the Lincoln party at Harrisburg, Pa., that an attempt would be made between Philadelphia and Baltimore to wreck Lincoln's private train. If this failed, the statement continued, assassins would await Lincoln's appearance in Baltimore.

Arriving in Baltimore unrecognized, the statement added, Lincoln left the official party and was driven to Washington by a "circuitous route" in Hazzard's horse and buggy.

It was on this trip, the statement said, that Lincoln wore the eye shields and carried the weapons in his pocket.

LINCOLN DISGUISE TOLD TO OUTWIT ASSASSINS

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The method and route Lincoln used are much disputed, the Park Service said. But the knuckles, knife and shields are going on display anyway in the Lincoln Museum in the theater where the Civil War President was shot.

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Arriving in Baltimore unrecognized, the statement added, Lincoln left the official party and was driven to Washington by a "circuitous route" in Hazzard's horse-drawn buggy.

It was on this portion of the trip, the statement said, that Lincoln wore the eye shields and carried the weapons in his pocket.

Warren: Did you see this one?

Holman.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1946.

Lincoln's Weapons Are Put in Museum; Iron Knuckles and Dagger Among Items

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 (AP)—The National Park Service reported today that Abraham Lincoln may have carried iron knuckles and a dagger and used eye shields as a disguise against possible assassins on his trip to Washington for his inauguration as President.

The method and route that Lincoln used are much disputed, the Park Service said. But the knuckles, knife and shields are going on display, anyway, in the Lincoln Museum in the theatre where the Civil War President was shot. The Park Service operates the museum.

The agency said in a statement that the articles originally belonged to Capt. George Whitfield Hazzard, an Army officer who accompanied Lincoln to Washington for his first inauguration. They were given to

the museum by the Little Sisters of the Poor to who they had been bequeathed by Margaretta Laurenson Hazzard, the captain's daughter.

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It was on this part of the trip, the statement said, that Lincoln wore the eye shields and carried the weapons in his pocket.

Lincoln Used 'Knucks' On Inaugural Trip

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Light Shed on Lincoln Escape From '61 Assassin

**He May Have Been Armed
and Disguised on Trip to
Washington Inaugural**

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—New light on the much-disputed method and route used by President Lincoln to reach Washington and escape alleged threats of would-be assassins prior to his first inauguration on March 4, 1861, may be shed by a recent presentation to the Lincoln Museum here of a set of heavy iron knuckles, a dirk and a pair of eye shields, said to have been worn and carried by Lincoln during the last leg of his journey from Springfield to the capital.

The articles, presented to the museum by the Little Sisters of the Poor, were part of a legacy left to that institution by the late Margaretta Laurenson Hazzard. They originally were owned by her father, Captain George Whitfield Hazzard, of the 4th Field Artillery.

According to the statement accompanying the gift, Captain Hazzard, an honor graduate of the Military Academy at West Point, was a guest of the President-elect on the special train carrying him to Washington. In Harrisburg, Pa., rumors reached the Lincoln party that an attempt would be made to kill the President-elect by wrecking the train between Philadelphia and Baltimore and that, failing this, assassins would await his scheduled public appearance in Baltimore. Fearful of his safety, Lincoln's advisers prevailed upon him to leave the official party and proceed to Washington incognito.

Arriving unrecognized in Baltimore, where Captain Hazzard was assigned to duty at Fort McHenry, the statement continues, the President-elect left the train and was driven by the Army officer in the latter's horse and buggy to Washington "by a circuitous route," arriving safely at Willard's Hotel, where Captain Hazzard remained at his side, sleeping in the hotel room with Lincoln in full uniform until the morning of the inauguration.

The eye shields, the statement concludes, were worn by Lincoln on the horse-and-buggy trip. The knuckles and dirk were carried in his pockets.



Miss Mary Margaret Campbell, of Grand Rapids, Mich., a visitor to Lincoln Museum in Washington, poses with eye shields, iron knuckles and dagger, said to have been carried by President Lincoln as protection against assassins in trip from Springfield, Ill., to Washington prior to first inauguration.

National Park Service historians in charge of the Lincoln Museum admit a lack of historical evidence in support of the "horse-and-buggy" story, but are impressed by the fact that the statement originated with a distinguished officer of the regular army. Captain Hazzard was known to have been in the Lincoln party, and his pass to travel on the special train with President-elect Lincoln was signed by W. S. Wood, who was in charge of arrangements for the trip, and was indorsed by railroad officials. The pass also was presented to the museum with the relics.

Many conflicting reports have been made concerning Lincoln's

dramatic trip to Washington, and his sudden, unheralded arrival at Willard's Hotel gave rise to numerous incongruous tales. One popular conception of the disguise adopted by Lincoln was a Scotsman's kilt and tam o'shanter, and contemporary cartoonists enjoyed a field day in depicting the lanky leader in Scotch attire, attempting to escape notice as he stole stealthily into the Capital City.

The Hazzard relics will be displayed after tomorrow at the Lincoln Museum in the old Ford Theater Building here, where the Civil War President was shot by John Wilkes Booth on the night of April 14, 1865.

Lincoln's Weapons in Museum

WASHINGTON.
NEW light on the much-disputed method and route used by President-elect Abraham Lincoln to reach the National Capital and escape the alleged threats of would-be assassins, prior to his first inauguration on March 4, 1861, may be shed by a recent presentation to the Lincoln Museum of a set of heavy iron knuckles, a dirk and a pair of eye shields, said to have been worn and carried by Lincoln during the last leg of his journey from Springfield to Washington.

The articles, presented to the museum by the Little Sisters of the Poor, were part of a legacy left to that institution by the late Margaretta Laurenson Hazzard. They were originally possessed by her father, Capt. George Whitfield Hazzard, 4th Field Artillery, USA.

Assassination Feared

According to the statement accompanying the gift, Captain Hazzard, an honor graduate of the United States Military Academy, was a guest of the President-elect on the train carrying Lincoln from Illinois to Washington. In Harrisburg, Pa., rumors reached the Lincoln party that an attempt would be made to kill the President-elect by wrecking the special train between Philadelphia and Baltimore and that, failing this, assassins would await his scheduled public appearance in Baltimore. Fearful for his safety, Lincoln's advisers prevailed upon him to leave the official party and proceed to Washington incognito. Arriving unrecognized in Baltimore, where Captain Hazzard was assigned to duty at Fort McHenry, the statement continues, the President-elect left the train and was driven by the army officer in the latter's buggy to Washington "by a circuitous route," ar-

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The eye shields, the statement concludes, were worn by Lincoln on the horse-and-buggy trip. The knuckles and dirk were carried in his pockets.

Evidence Inconclusive

National Park Service historians in charge of the Lincoln Museum admit a lack of historical evidence in support of the "horse-and-buggy" story but are impressed by the fact that the statement originated with a distinguished officer of the regular Army. Captain Hazzard was known to have been in the Lincoln party, and his pass to travel on the special train with President-elect Lincoln was signed by W. S. Wood, who was in charge of arrangements for the trip, and was indorsed by railroad officials. The pass also was presented to the museum with the relics.

Many conflicting reports have

been made concerning Lincoln's dramatic trip to Washington, and his sudden unheralded arrival at Willard's Hotel gave rise to

numerous tales, chronicled among the important myths surrounding the activities of the Emancipator. One popular con-

ception of the disguise adopted by Lincoln was a Scotsman's kilts and tam-o-shanter, and contemporary cartoonists enjoyed a

field day in depicting the lanky leader in Scotch attire attempting to escape notice as he stole stealthily into Washington. The

